

Section One

Sewer System Maintenance, Overflow, and Spill Prevention Plan

1.0 Summary of Requirements

The **City** is responsible for implementing a *sewer system maintenance, overflow, and spill prevention plan*. Facilities that are covered under this plan include: sanitary sewer pipes and pump stations owned and operated by the City. The purpose of the plan is to provide affected City personnel with written procedures to accomplish the following:

- Keep any sewage system overflows or leaks from entering the MS4 (any street, gutter, catch basin, open channel, ditch, or any device, natural or man-made, that transports runoff to the Los Angeles River.
- Identify, fix, and remediate sewage system blockages, exfiltration, and overflows
- Implement procedures for investigating suspected cross-connections
- Notify public health authorities when there is a threat to public health

2.0 Spill Response

Upon notification of a sewage release (spill, leakage, or overflow) to the MS4, the following steps shall be performed:

- Dispatch appropriate personnel to perform material cleanup
- Contain the spill and minimize the release to the storm drain system or receiving waters
- Record required information at the spill site using attached form

- Perform field evaluation to determine the source of the spill

2.1 Spill Containment, Removal, and Disinfection

Sewage releases include any kind of sewage discharge to the MS4, including **leaks** and **overflows** from sewer pipes and pump stations. In the event of a sewage discharge to MS4, the following steps must be taken:

- Prevent traveling sewage from entering the MS4 by covering or blocking storm drain inlets and catch basins, or by containing and diverting the sewage away from open channels and other storm drain facilities (using sandbags, inflatable dams, etc.)
- Remove the sewage using vacuum equipment or use other measures to return it to the sanitary sewer system
- In the event disinfection is necessary (e.g., using sodium hypochlorite), make every effort to prevent the disinfectant or sewage with disinfectant from entering the MS4. In the event such discharge threatens to enter a catch basin, the catch basin inlet should be blocked (e.g., using sand bags or impermeable covering over the inlet). In the event the discharge threatens to enter an open channel or a storm drain, contain or divert the stream away from it using appropriate material (e.g., sand bags, etc.)
- Record the estimated volume of the release that entered the street, catch basin, or channel
- Determine the source of the release and take steps necessary to stop it

2.2 Sewage Release Prevention

To minimize the frequency of sewage releases to the MS4, the following steps should be taken:

- Note the condition of the sanitary sewer during scheduled and non-scheduled inspections, maintenance, and repair work,

including: (i) cracked/deteriorating pipes; (ii) leaking joints/seals at manhole; (iii) plugged line; (iv) line flowing at or near capacity; and (vi) suspected exfiltration

- Identify areas that need maintenance or repair
- Document recommendations for repair and notify superior personnel
- Prioritize repairs based on the nature and severity of the problem

3.0 Cross Connection Discovery

A cross connection is a connection between the MS4 and sewerage system, which is also considered an illicit connection (see Illicit Connections and Illicit Discharges Elimination Program). The following steps shall be taken to verify that suspected connections or cross-connections are investigated:

- Educate field personnel to recognize suspected and actual cross-connections to the sanitary sewer system
- Maintain accurate records of both sewer connections and new sewer lines
- Report suspected or actual cross connections to appropriate personnel
- Initiate investigation into source of cross connection in accordance with IC/ID Elimination Program.

4.0 Release Notification

In the event of a sewage release to the MS4 which has the potential to threaten a beneficial use of a water body, the following steps shall be taken implemented:

- Notify the County Department of Health Services, or other local health agency (including the regional board and/or the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts) of the spill location and potential discharge point to the receiving water. (Note: the County may be reached by calling the Hotline number (800) 303-0003 or (888) CLEANLA.)
- Notify other impacted agencies – including the regional board and the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County -- as needed to help determine the extent of the threat and document the release.

5.0 Training

Affected department personnel shall be trained at least annually on sewage system maintenance and spill prevention requirements as specified in this section. Any new employee who is assigned to performing these tasks shall be given training as a prerequisite.